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The climbing equipment includes an oxygen apparatus specially devised for the occasion. The photographic outfit is very complete, including three cinematograph cameras, of which one is equipped with a battery of lenses up to 20-inch focal length; two panoramic cameras, of which one rotates through the complete circle; four cameras for glass plate, including one 7½-inch by 5-inch, all fitted with telephoto lenses; one stereoscopic camera, and five Kodaks, besides a variety of private cameras belonging to different members of the party. The dark-room equipment includes all that is required for developing cinematograph films in the field.

General Bruce, with his two assistants, Captain Geoffrey Bruce and Captain Morris, are at Darjeeling making preparations for the start of the expedition at the end of the month. They will be especially concerned with the two most important matters, first, the organization of the special corps of Himalayan coolies enlisted from Nepal and the borders of Sikkin and Tibet, and, secondly, with transport arrangements, which require careful and methodical planning, for the expedition is larger this year than last, and is more fully equipped.

Telegrams will be dispatched from the expedition describing its progress, and will be published in *The Times*. A book containing a full account of last year's reconnaissance, with a new map and illustrations, is now going through the press, and will be published by Edward Arnold by the end of next month or the beginning of May. The *Geographical Journal* will contain monthly notices of the progress and results of this year's attempt to reach the summit.

THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE American Chemical Society, which will meet in Birmingham, Ala., from April 3 to 7, expects an attendance of from 700 to 1,000 chemists. It was planned to leave Washington, D. C., on March 30. March 31 will be spent at Kingsport, Tenn., where the Clinchfield Portland Cement Plant and several large extract plants and tanneries are located, together with numerous other chemical industries. April 1 will be spent at Chattanooga, Tenn.,

and April 2 will be spent at Muscle Shoals, Ala., the site of the large government cyanamid plant and the Wilson power dam. The special train will arrive in Birmingham on April 3.

The following divisions of the society will meet and discuss technical and scientific problems and developments: Agricultural and Food Chemistry, Biological Chemistry, Dye Chemistry, Industrial Engineering Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Chemistry of Medicinal Products, Physical and Inorganic Chemistry, Rubber Chemistry, Water, Sewage and Sanitation Chemistry, Sugar Chemistry, Cellulose Chemistry, Petroleum Chemistry, Chemical Education and History of Chemistry.

Dr. Edgar F. Smith, president of the American Chemical Society, will turn over to the society dues for the Priestley Medal together with funds which have been donated for the purpose of presenting every two years a medal for the most distinguished service to the science and industry of chemistry, and will make the address of welcome.

Dr. Van H. Manning, former chief of the Bureau of Mines, will present a paper on "The pioneer's field in petroleum research." Dr. Charles L. Reese will give a paper on "Informational needs in science and technology," and Dr. W. C. Geer will speak on "Recent developments of the chemistry of rubber."

Meetings of the various divisions will occupy Wednesday April 5, and Thursday, April 6, concluded with a banquet at the Hotel Tutwiler on Thursday night. Friday, April 7, will be spent in excursions to the steel, by-product, coke and other industries in and around Birmingham. George Gordon Crawford is the honorary chairman and J. F. Carle, of the Southern Testing Laboratories, is chairman of the executive committee in Birmingham in charge of the local arrangements.

Permission to visit the nitrate plant and water power development at Muscle Shoals has been limited by the government officials to American citizens and to those who have no personal connection with or financial interest in the manufacture of cyanamid.

One of the avowed purposes of the meeting is to gather support, by writing congressmen and senators, for the passage of the reclassifi-

cation bill as reported by the Senate civil service committee, which provides for higher salaries for scientific men employed by the government.

THE JOHN SCOTT MEDAL FUND

THE Board of Directors of City Trusts, having charge of the John Scott Medal Fund, has recently awarded the John Scott Medal and Certificate, with premium of \$800, to each of the following, for the inventions named:

William Duane, Ph.D., of Boston, Mass., for "his researches in radio-activity and the physics of radium and of X-rays."

Reginald Aubrey Fessenden, of Chestnut Hill, Mass., for "his invention of a reception scheme for continuous wave telegraphy and telephony."

Elwood Haynes, of Kokomo, Indiana, for "his discoveries in connection with stainless steel, stellite, chrome-iron, etc."

Thomas B. Osborne, Ph.D., of New Haven, Conn., for "his researches on the constitution of the vegetable proteins."

JOHN SCOTT MEDAL FUND

Extract from power of attorney to carry out certain provisions in the will of John Scott. Dated April 2, 1816:

... that the interest and dividends to become receivable ... be laid out in premiums to be distributed among ingenious men and women who make useful inventions; but no one of such premiums to exceed twenty dollars, and along with which shall be given a copper medal with this inscription "To the most deserving," conformably to the tenor of the will of the said testator, John Scott, deceased.

Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia:

And now, this nineteenth day of February, A. D. 1919, the report of the master having been duly filed and no exceptions having been taken thereto, it is adjudged and decreed that the same be confirmed, and that the Board of Directors of City Trusts having in charge the trust created under the will of John Scott, deceased, be authorized and directed in the administration of said fund to distribute the income arising from the fund as it stands with its accumulations as of the date of this decree, in premiums to be distributed among ingenious men and women who make useful inventions, but no one of such premiums to ex-

ceed eight hundred dollars (\$800.00) in value (increased under decree of court, dated November 29, 1921, to \$2,000.00); and along with such premium shall be given a copper medal with this inscription, "To the most deserving" conformably to the tenor of the will of the said testator.

It is further ordered and decreed that in the selection of the recipients, the said trustees shall be at liberty to make such rules and regulations for enabling them to make a wise selection of beneficiaries either by the selection of an advisory board or otherwise, as they may deem best. The premiums shall be awarded for useful inventions which shall include any inventions that will be useful to mankind in the advancement of chemical, medical or any other science or in the development of industry in any form; the test being that the invention is, in the judgment of the trustees, definitely accomplished, and that it may add to the comfort, welfare and happiness of mankind.

Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of City Trusts:

Resolved, That the award of medals under the John Scott Medal Fund be made hereafter upon the recommendation of an advisory board, to consist of five persons, to be appointed by the Board of Directors of City Trusts; three to be nominated by the National Academy of Sciences, one by the University of Pennsylvania, and one by the American Philosophical Society; all of said nominees to be acceptable to the Board of Directors of City Trusts; the recommendations of the Advisory Board to be made on a majority vote.

Personnel of the Advisory Committee:

National Academy of Sciences: H. H. Donaldson, Theobald Smith, W. B. Scott.

University of Pennsylvania: Arthur W. Goodspeed.

American Philosophical Society: Samuel M. Vauclain.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. HANS ZINSSER, professor of bacteriology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, formerly in charge of the sanitary inspection, successively in the first and second army corps, American Expeditionary Forces, was awarded the distinguished service medal at Governors Island, on March 17, for his successful operation of a plan of